Telecommunication networks are highly capital intensive in nature. In the context of extremely limited investible resources both material and financial, it is necessary to optimise the resource utilisation. Towards this end, Government have set up an Empowered Committee to examine the needs of the specialised organisations and evolve suitable strategies for ensuring that these are met optimally through a mix of the multi-user national network established, maintained and operated by Department of Telecommunications and dedicated facilities established by the user organisations.

Price increase by Hindustan Photo Films

*273. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whetehr it is a fact that the film industry has protested to Government against the frequent price increases of cine films by Hindustan Photo Films (HPF) without consulting the film industry during the past three years; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). Represenations were received from the Film Chamber of Commerce, Trade Associations, Film Producers Guild etc. against the increases in the price of cine films by Hindustan Photo Film Manufacturing Company Ltd. The company had to revise the prices of cine films due to increase in the price of major raw materials like silver, chemicals, etc., adverse exchange rate variation changes in duty structure variation in the price of imported jumbo rolls etc. Keeping in view all commercial and financial requirements the prices have been increased only to the extent necessary.

Memorandum submitted by All India Oil Refinery Sangram Parishad (AIORSP)

*274. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of the All India Oil Refinery Sangram Parishad called on him on the 1st March, 1988; and

(b) if so, what were the issues raised in the memorandum submitted by it and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) A Memorandum has been received from the All Assam Oil Refinery Sangram Parishad requesting for a new refinery to be set up in Assam in the public sector with an initial capacity of three million tonnes with scope for future expansion and down stream installations. It has also been requested that the refinery should be located near the oil fields.

2. Government have decided to set up a new refinery in Assam with an initial capacity of 2 MTPA but with a provision to increase the capacity of 3 MTPA if additional crude of that order becomes available. The location of the refinery will take into account among other techno-economic factors the proximity of the oil fields as well as demand centres. Government have also proposed to Assam Government that it shall be in the Central Public Sector and Assam Government has been requested to ensure uninterrupted flow of crude oil to all the refineries.

Electric Motor Industry

*275. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that the electric motor manufacturers in the country are in difficulty following unilateral price increase in raw material erretic power supply and frequent changes in cost stucture by way of notifications; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the action taken by Government to help this industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) There was a significant increase in the prices of copper which is a major raw material required for the manufacture of electic